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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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DOCKETS

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Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2003-16646; Directorate Docket No. 2003-NM-177-AD; Amendment  
39-<sup>✓</sup>; AD 2004-12-17

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757-200 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Boeing Model 757-200 series airplanes, that requires repetitive inspections of the intercostals that back up the door stops and hinges at door 2 left and door 2 right for cracks, and corrective action, if necessary. This amendment also provides for an optional terminating action for the repetitive inspections. This action is necessary to prevent fatigue cracks from propagating in the intercostals, which could lead to the loss of a door in flight and subsequent rapid decompression. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Effective [insert date 35 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**]

The incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of [insert date 35 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**].

ADDRESSES: The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at

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| CONCURRENCES                       |
| ROUTING SYMBOL<br>114              |
| INITIALS/SIGNATURE<br>J. Lovendick |
| DATE<br>4/19/04                    |
| ROUTING SYMBOL<br>-1205            |
| INITIALS/SIGNATURE<br>[Signature]  |
| DATE<br>5/3/04                     |
| ROUTING SYMBOL<br>1005             |
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